

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/7/2011 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on 9/7/2011 has been entered with amended claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, and cancelled claims 2, 6, 11, 16, 19, 21. In this Office Action, claims 1, 3-5, 7-10, 12-15, 17-18 and 20 are pending.

2. Based on Applicant's arguments on page 6, paragraph 3, Examiner withdraws the Summary of the Invention objection.

3. Based on claims amendment and arguments on page 7, paragraph three, Applicant overcomes the rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. 101. Therefore, Examiner withdraws the objection.

Compact Prosecution

4. Examiner called on 9/12/2011 Applicant representative, Mr. Joseph V. Gamberdell, Reg. No. 44,695 to suggest to make claims 1, 3, and 12 in a condition for allowance and to create the independent claims 1, 3 and 12 to be specific and unique. Applicant agreed in consultation with the client and authorized for an Examiner's amendment to expedite the prosecution. (See Examiner's Interview Summary).

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

5. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Joseph V. Gamberdell, Reg. No. 44,695 on 9/12/2011.

Specification Amendment:

Please amend the paragraph on page 4, lines 24-30 of the application as shown:

The hardware platform controller cards 23a, 23b generally comprise any suitable module designated as the platform manager. Each hardware platform controller card maintains a list of the software copyright years relevant to the software on its platform. Each hardware platform controller card 23a, 23b passes the

copyright information to the system manager at power ON or when initiated by a user request from the system manager.

Claims Amendment:

Claims: *Replace amended on record claims 1, 3-5, 7, 12-13, 15 and 17 with the following:*

1. (Currently Amended) A multiple platform architecture data reporting system for managing attribute data in a document reproduction apparatus, the system comprising:
 - at least one hardware platform controller card configured to store copyright attributes of software stored on the at least one hardware platform controller card;
 - a system manager connected to a memory and configured to poll the at least one hardware platform controller card for the software copyright attributes, to collect the software copyright attributes from the at least one hardware platform controller card in the memory, and to merge the software copyright attributes reported by each hardware platform controller card into a compilation of software copyright attributes of all of the hardware platform controller cards; and
 - a user interface connected to the system manager for displaying the compilation of software copyright attributes of all of the hardware platform controller cards to a user.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for managing attribute data in a document reproduction apparatus, the method comprising:

using one or more hardware platform controller cards of the document reproduction apparatus for storing copyright attributes of software stored on each hardware platform controller card;

using a system manager in the document reproduction apparatus to poll the one or more hardware platform controller cards for the software copyright attributes;

using the system manager to collect the software copyright attributes from each of the hardware platform controller cards in response to the polling, and to merge the software copyright attributes reported by each hardware platform controller card into a compilation of software copyright attributes for all of the hardware platform controller cards; and

using a display of the document processing apparatus to display the compilation of software copyright attributes.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein using the system manager to poll the one or more hardware platform controller cards for the software copyright attributes further comprises automatically polling the one or more hardware platform controller cards at power on of the one or more hardware platform controller cards.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein using the system manager to poll the one or more hardware platform controller cards for the software copyright

attributes further comprises polling at least one of the hardware platform controller cards when polling is initiated by a user request.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein using the system manager to collect the software copyright attributes from each of the hardware platform controller cards in response to the polling further comprises collecting license information from each of the hardware platform controller cards.

12. (Currently Amended) A software copyright information managing system embodied on a non-transitory computer readable storage medium for managing software copyright attributes in a document reproduction apparatus, the system comprising:

at least one platform controller stored on said non-transitory computer readable storage medium and configured to store copyright attributes of software stored on the at least one platform controller;

a system manager stored on said non-transitory computer readable storage medium and configured to poll the at least one platform controller for the software copyright attributes, to collect the software copyright attributes from the at least one platform controller, and to merge the software copyright attributes reported by each platform controller into a compilation of software copyright attributes of all of the platform controllers; and

a user interface connected to the system manager for displaying the software copyright attributes of all of the platform controllers.

13. (Currently Amended) The software copyright information managing system of claim 12 wherein the system manager further comprises a memory for storing the collected software copyright attributes.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1 wherein the system manager collects the software copyright attributes at power on of the at least one hardware platform controller card.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the compilation of software copyright attributes of all the hardware platform controller cards comprises a list of copyright years for software stored on all the hardware platform controller cards.

Reasons for allowance

6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
- Prior art of record does not teach or suggest or render obvious the claimed limitations in combination with the specific added limitations as recited in independent claims 1, 3 and 12. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest in combination of claimed elements including "at least one hardware platform

controller card configured to store copyright attributes of software stored on the at least one hardware platform controller card; a system manager connected to a memory and configured to poll the at least one hardware platform controller card for the software copyright attributes, to collect the software copyright attributes from the at least one hardware platform controller card in the memory, and to merge the software copyright attributes reported by each hardware platform controller card into a compilation of software copyright attributes of all of the hardware platform controller cards; and a user interface connected to the system manager for displaying the compilation of software copyright attributes of all of the hardware platform controller cards to a user” as recited in independent claim 1. Other independent claims 3 and 12 are claiming similar limitations.

- Applicant amended the specification accordingly to meet all amended claims.
- Applicant's argument stated as “The platform controllers 23a and 23b are shown, for example, as having the same form factor as expansion cards for a personal computer. Applicants have amended the claims to refer to a platform controller card.” This argument is convincing and valid.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SATHYANARAYAN PANNALA whose telephone number is (571)272-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Sathyanarayan Pannala/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2164

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